



SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Sandhills Middle

Lexington 4

Grades: 7-8

Enrollment: 497

Principal: Justin Nutter

Superintendent: Dr. Linda G. Lavender

Board Chair: Mrs. Shelia Parkman

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2009	Average	Average	TBD	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2008	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

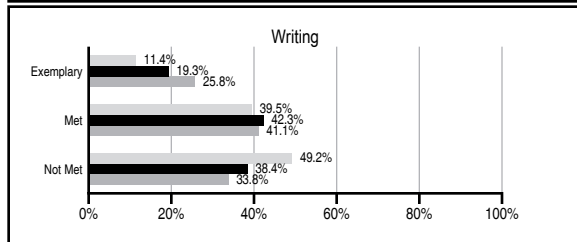
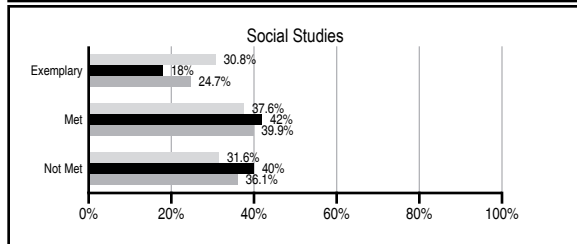
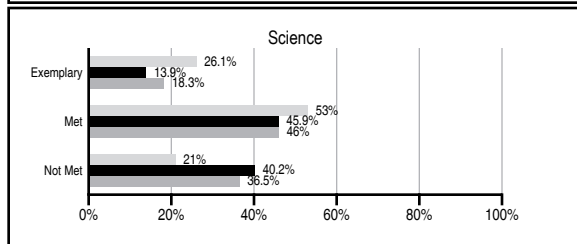
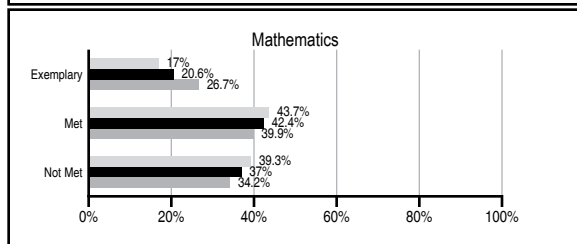
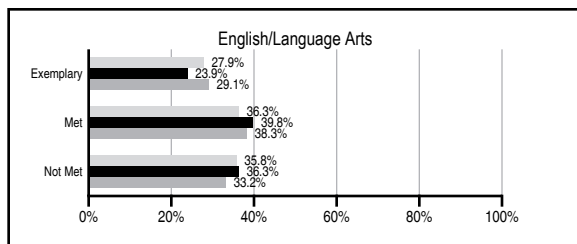
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	1	30	13	1

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 06/01/2010. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

READING – GRADE 8 (2007)			
South Carolina	31	44	23
Nation	27	43	27
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced			
	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient

MATH – GRADE 8 (2007)			
South Carolina	29	39	24
Nation	30	39	24
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced			
	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient

SCIENCE – GRADE 8 (2005)			
South Carolina	46	31	21
Nation	43	30	24
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced			
	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2009

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	88.6	92.1
English 1	88.3	89.7
Physical Science	N/A	94.8
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	88.5	91.7

SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:

By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Vision:

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined

NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

Sandhills Middle [Lexington 4]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=497)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	47.9%	Up from 47.2%	21.6%	21.6%
Retention rate	0.6%	No Change	1.5%	1.2%
Attendance rate	94.8%	Up from 94.7%	95.6%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	11.9%	Down from 14.4%	12.8%	14.8%
With disabilities other than speech	17.6%	Up from 14.0%	14.0%	12.6%
Older than usual for grade	1.2%	Down from 2.5%	3.4%	2.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.4%	Down from 1.4%	1.1%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=38)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	47.4%	Down from 48.6%	56.2%	56.9%
Continuing contract teachers	57.9%	Up from 40.5%	70.0%	72.7%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	16.0%	Down from 18.2%	7.2%	5.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	71.0%	Down from 73.7%	79.8%	82.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.3%	Up from 93.8%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$40,536	Up 7.2%	\$45,958	\$46,599
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	9.7%	Down from 17.1%	3.4%	2.4%
Professional development days/teacher	12.4 days	Down from 14.7 days	12.0 days	10.8 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.5 to 1	Down from 21.7 to 1	19.4 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.1%	Up from 86.8%	89.8%	89.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 97.9%	97.7%	97.8%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,062	Up 6.1%	\$7,938	\$7,645
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	49.8%	Down from 54.6%	63.4%	63.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	45.0%	Down from 50.3%	55.2%	57.0%
% of AYP objectives met	90.5%	Up from 57.1%	90.5%	90.5%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	32	196	193
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	66.3%	79.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	65.3%	81.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	77.4%	75.9%	76.6%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

The students, parents, faculty, and staff at Sandhills Middle School are proud to work together to create an exemplary learning community that embodies our mission of "being and creating life-long learners in a safe and supportive environment."

During the 2008-09 school year, our learning community focused on building our capacity to actively utilize student performance data to inform and guide instruction. Our team developed our ability to effectively assess student learning in multiple ways through the utilization of multi-format summative assessments. The collaborative analysis of these assessments enabled us to intentionally focus instruction on specific student needs. The creation and use of data notebooks assisted teachers in tracking student academic progress and interventions. The implementation of MAPS (Measure of Academic Progress) testing provided benchmark achievement scores for students in mathematics and language arts throughout the year.

Our commitment to ensure student performance at the highest level was demonstrated in our focus on providing proactive assistance to academically and behaviorally at-risk students. We continued to develop our framework to identify and address the specific needs of at-risk students through the assistance of the entire school community. Our STARS Team (Support Team for At-Risk Students) helped us mentor and provide individual assistance to students who need additional support to experience success. Our morning tutoring, Thursday Academic Acceleration classes, additional core content classes, and focused small-group enrichment classes for at-risk students helped us to maximize the opportunities for teachers and students to work on specific areas of need.

Sandhills Middle continues to seek to meet the diverse needs of our students through providing a program of courses that foster individual growth and career development. We continued to develop the effectiveness of inclusion of special education students within the general population in order to provide purposeful and rigorous learning for all students. The implementation of quarterly student recognition assemblies complete with student fine arts performances showcased our students for the school and community. Our Tiger Pride student incentive program was enhanced through the creation of our Gold Card program that provides special recognition and rewards to students with outstanding attendance, academics, and conduct.

As we move into the 2009-10 school year, Sandhills Middle School is committed to continuing to establish high standards by creating a learning environment which ensures student performance at the highest level. Our challenges for 2009-10 include the continued development of our ability to effectively assess student learning, provide targeted and timely interventions, and developing our school's influence in the local community.

Justin Nutter, Principal
Patricia Carter, Chair, School Improvement Council

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